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TR
10-11-06

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, lines 21-²⁸27, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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Furthermore, when the dewatering hole is used, molten resin may lead from the hole. For this reason, the watering hole slit is preferred. A preferred example of such a dewatering slit includes a wedge wire dewatering slit or a screen mesh type dewatering slit. Herein, the wedge wire denotes a wire having a wedge shape, that is, a triangular prism shape cross section. In the wedge wire dewatering slit, the wedge wires are arranged with [[a]] predetermined gaps and water from the resin is extruded out through the gaps.

O/K for
enter
RDH,

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 37, line 21 through page 38, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

11/10/07

A 45% methanol solution of ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer having an ethylene content of 32 ~~weight%~~ mol% was placed in a saponification reaction, a sodium hydroxide/methanol solution (80g/L) was added thereto so as to be 0.4 equivalent with respect to a vinyl acetate component in the copolymer, and methanol was added thereto so that the concentration of the copolymer was adjusted to 20%. The temperature was raised to 60°C and reaction was performed for about 4 hours while blowing nitrogen gas into the reactor. After 4 hours, the reacted product was neutralized with acetic acid to stop the reaction. Furthermore, water was supplied thereto, and a water and methanol solution of EVOH having an ethylene content of 32 ~~weight%~~ mol% and saponification degree of 99.5% was obtained. The EVOH solution was extruded from a metal mold having circular holes into water, thereby allowing the EVOH solution to precipitate in the form of a strand. The strand was cut into pellets having a diameter of about 3 mm and a length of about 5 mm. The obtained pellets were dewatered with a centrifugal separator. Furthermore, the operation in